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A Short Treatise of Hunting:

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*Compyled for the delight of Noble
men and Gentlemen, by Sir Thomas
Cockayne, Knight.*

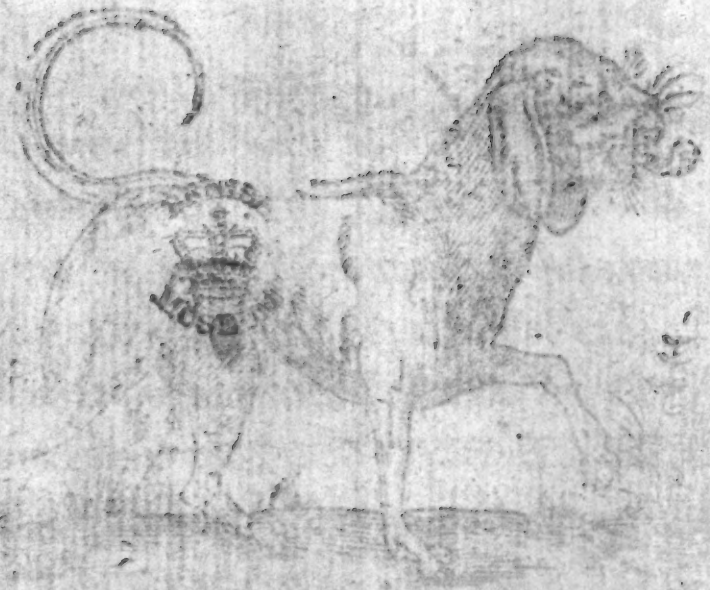


Imprinted at London by Thomas Orwin
for Thomas Woodcocke, dwelling in Paules
Churchyard at the signe of the
black Beare. 1591.

Short Treatise

of Hunting

(continued from the last page)
now will be the end of the
book



Printed at the University of
Oxford by J. Sturt
in the year 1711



To the Right Honorable and my
singular good Lord the Earle of Shrews-
burie: Sir Thomas Cockaine Knight, wi-
sheth increase of all honorable vertues.

Having (right Honorable)
at the instance of diuers
my especiall good friends,
penned this short Pamph-
let of my owne experience
in hunting. And entring
into consideration how greatly I am bounden
to the Nobilitie of this land; Reason challen-
ged a speciall affection in me to preferre the pa-
tronage thereof to your honorable Lordship be-
fore any other, as well in respect I had the ori-
ginall of my said experience vnder your most
noble Grandfather (whose seruant I was in
my younger yeares, and brought vp in his house)
as also in regard that I haue receaued many
extraordinary fauours, both from your said

To the Reader.

most noble Grandfather, from my honourable
good Lord your father, and lastly and most e-
specially from your selfe (my good Lord); who
knowing me a professed Hunter, and not a
scholler, I make no doubt but your Lordshippe
wil affoord my plainnes herein your favourable
liking. And so (my good Lord) wishing you as
honorable successe in all your vertuous actions
as your Lordshippe can desire or imagine, I
humble take my leaue of your good Lordship.
From my house neere Ashborne this last of
December. 1590.

Your honorable Lordships ma-
ny waies so bounden:

Thomas Cockaine.




To the Gentlemen

Readers.



I hath bin long receiued for a truth, that Sir *Tristram*, one of King *Arthures* Knights, was the first writer and (as it were) the founder of the exact knowledge of the honorable and delightfull sport of hunting; whose tearmes in Hunting, Hawking, and measures of blowing, I hold to be the best and fittest to be vsed. And these first principles of Sir *Tristram* yet extant, ioyned with my owne long experience in Hunting for these fiftie two yeares now last past, haue mooued me to write more at large, of hunting the Bucke and other Chases, than Sir *Tristram* did. And for the first commendation of Hunting, I find (Gentlemen) by my owne experience in Hunting, that Hunters by their continuall trauaile, painfull labour, often watching, and enduring of hunger, of heate, and of cold, are much enabled aboue others to the seruice of their Prince and Countrey in the warres, hauing their bodies for the most part by reason of their continuall exercise in much better health, than o-

To the Reader.



ther men haue; and their minds also by this honest recreation the more fit and the better disposed to all other good exercises. And for prooffe hereof, I can not giue you a better instance than that most noble Gentleman the Earle of *Cumberland* now liuing; who by reason that hee hath vsed hunting with hounds euen from his youth herterto, is not onely in skill of hunting equall with any Gentleman in England: but for all abilities of his bodie (which doo awaite vpon many great gifts of the mind) as fit to be a noble Souldier for his countrey, or rather a most notable Generall for any Army whatsoeuer either by Sea or Land, as any man is in Europe of his calling whatsoeuer. And here I cannot but remeber, that once being on a hunting iourney with that most honorable Gentlemā *Ambrose* the late Earle of *Warwicke*, and now deceased; I heard him say before diuers Noble men and Gentlemen of great qualitie then in that companie; that amongst all the sorts of men that he had conuersed withall in his life, he neuer found any better or more honest companions than Hunters and Falkoners. I could here say much more in praise of this notable exercise of hunting; by which in many other Countries men haue been and yet are often deliuered from the rauine & spoile of many wild beasts; as namely of Lyons, of Beares, of Woolues, and of other such beasts of pray; and here in England from the hurt of Foxes and of other rauenous vermine. But the disport being of it selfe sufficiently commendable and able to say for it self, against all the carping speeches of the enemies thereof

To the Reader.

thereof (if any such may be found amongst Gentlemen) I hope this labour of mine only taken in hand for your delight, shall passe with your most fauourable censure thereof. And so with my praier that both you and I may liue and dye in the Lord, I bid you all hartely farewell; with this caution, that this disport of hunting bee vsed by you only as a recreation to enable both your bodies and minds thereby to better exercises, & not as an occupation to spend therein daies, moneths and yeres, to the hinderance of the seruice of God, her Maiestie or your Countrey. From my house neere *Ashborne* this last of December. 1590.

Your louing friend.

T. C.

To the Reader

that of this kind may be found through the
many books of this sort of mine which is had
for your use, shall give with your most know-
able and honest. And to wish my friend
both you and I may find the same, and I bid
you and I may find the same, and I bid
the good of mine, which by you only, shall
then to enable you to do so, and thus, thereby
to better exercise, & notes an occasion to find
the same, and thus, thereby, in the hindrance
of the service of God, for which, or your Com-
pany, from my heart, I wish, this shall be

December, 1550.

Your loving friend

T. C.



**A short Treatise of Hunting: com-
pyled for the delight of Noble men and
Gentlemen, by Sir Thomas
Cockaine Knight.**

**A very good note for any yong Gentleman, who
will breed Hounds to hunt the Foxe.**



You must breed fouretee or fiftene couple of small
Kibble hounds, lowe and swift, and two couple of
Terriers, which you may enter in one yeare, by this
rule following.

A Discourse of Hunting

The order to enter yong Hounds at
the Foxe.



YOu must bozowe one couple of old Foxe hounds of some Gentleman, or Woman, who useth to hunt the Foxe: and when your Hounds bee full twelue moneth and a quarter olde, and that your Huntsman hath chastized them surely from sheepe, then may you take your seruants with you, and goe to some Couert, where you heare there is a litter of Foxe Cubbes; where stopping all the holes, sauing two or thre, which must be set with Foxe pursenets, to take a yong Cubbe, to make your Terriars withall. Then must you cast off your couple of old Hounds to finde the Cubs, which being found, you must cast off all your whelpes to them forth of the couples, and forsee that none of them haue hunted either the Hare or Conie before.

By that time you haue killed halfe a skore Cubbes in this sorte in severall Couerts or Woods, and haue taken two or thre quicke Cubbes to make your Terriars withall, you will finde your Hounds well and perfect.

This order of entring your whelps should be begun a fortnight or thre weekes before Bartholmew day, and continued untill the feast of All Saints.

The

by Sir Thomas Cockaine.

The order to be obserued in hunting
the Foxe.



Vſe you haue entred your whelps
(as befoze is laid) you muſt chuſe
out of your fozeeteene couple two
couple to bee trailors of an olde
Foxe and finders of him. The
reſt of the Hounds muſt bee kept
in couples by your ſeruants, and
made ſo obedient, that no Hound
ſhall breake the couples, or offer
to goe away to the finders, vntill the Huntſman doe per-
fectly vnderſtand that the Hounds he caſt off befoze haue
found the Foxe: and then may he vncouple all the hounds
that he hath to the finders, but two couple of the ſloweſt,
which muſt bee kept to followe the Huntſman his heeles,
in great obedience to the man, with one couple of the beſt
Terriers. The other couple of your Terriers ſhould bee
uſed to hunt with the reſt of the hounds.

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The old Foxe being well breathed is so forcible a chase, as every Huntsman his part is to hew him, or backe him into the Couert againe, when hee offereth to breake the same, and to hallowe him and helpe the Hounds wheresoeuer he can, and to comfort them both with voyce & horne, that all trauailers passing that way, may knowe that it is a Foxe that is hunted.

And this last I will giue you of the flying of this chase, that the Authoꝝ hereof hath killed a Foxe distant from the Couert where hee was found, foureteene miles aloft the ground with Hounds.

By that time either Noble man or Gentleman hath hunted two yeares with one packe of Hounds, the same will hunt neither Hare nor Conie, nor any other chase saue a vermine.

The order how to make your Terriars.



You must make a Trench of seauen yards long, two fote broade within, and then make a crosse Trench ouer the same of five yards long, and so little crosse Trenches in the same of an ell long so conueyed, that one run into another, couer al your Trenches with Clods or Turffes, and leaue foure holes open at the ends thereof for ayre. Then put in your Foxe Cub, and at the same hole put in one of your Terriars, and when the same hath found the Cubbe, you may helpe him with another, and if you finde those too weake you may put in the other couple also: but you must make sure that your Terriars at the first be well eased and kill the Cubbe. By that time your Terriars haue kild halfe a dosen Cubbes in this sort in the earth, they will fight very boldly: and being

by Sir Thomas Cockaine.

ing thus made will proue excellent good. But you must beware that you fight them not if they bee bitten, till they be whole againe. And you must haue speciall care in the seeking out a right kinde of them: for there is great difference in the breeds of your Terriers, and great choise to be made of them, both for their hardie fighting and swift running.

The order how to breede your Hounds for the
Hare, and other chases.



Herein must you bee most carefull in breeding your
Hounds both for shape and making, and foresee you
barken them forth of such a kinde as bee durable, well
mouthed,

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mouthed, cold nosed, round footed, open bulked, and well let downe there, with fine steernes and small tayles. The Bitch and Hound being thus well chosen to breede vpon, your man must be very carefull in the time of the Bitches pride that no other dogg come to her but one, and he must serue her but three times.

A Bitch is nine daies entergellying, nine daies full proude, and nine daies in dyping vp: all which time she must bee kept with meate and water very carefully vnder locke and key in the kennell, and be walked euery day half an houre abroade in a line, and her kennell shifted euery weeke once. And it were very necessarie befoze you breed your whelps, that you should see your breeding Hounds recouer a chace very farre fled afoze, and driue and sticke at the marke, and not sling about: and then may you be bold to breede foureteene or sixteene couple of whelps that will serue you to hunt foure seuerall chases, that is, the fine and cunning Hare, the sweet sented Roe, the hot sented Stag, and the dubling Bucke when he groweth wearie.

How to enter your whelps at the Hare.



When your whelps be full twentie moneths old and a quarter, then must you begin to enter them at Michaelmas in manner and forme following.

You must borrowe two or three couple of fine Harioys, such as will hunt a Hare cunningly to the seate, and when your Hounds haue found the outgate of a Hare from the pasture, and bee oia perfect single gate: then must you haue foure men with foure whelps in lines, which haue been a little entred befoze at Conies, and surely chasized

by Sir Thomas Cockaine.

Waxed from Geepe, and other catrell. Such as leade the whelps must come in and let the whelps seele the sent in the foyle of the old Hounds feete that be before them. And all those that leade the whelps must still come nere the old Hounds till the Hare be start, and not cast off their whelps but use this course a wake together, and crosse and meete, and let the whelps alwaies seele the sent in the foyle of the olde Hounds feete, and in one weeke being well applied, those whelps will bee made to spend their mouches fast in the line, which you may then let lose and take others, and use in the same order with them: so that by All Saints day you shall haue entred all your whelps.

Some doe use to enter their whelps in couples, which manner of entring I doe not so well like of as in the lines for two causes. The one, for that they will range abroad more at libertie, than if they were led in lines. The other, for that being in couples the one will draw forward, the other backward, and neuer proue so errant or earnest hunters as the other that bee entered in lines: for the Huntsman may helpe the whelp he hath in the line with putting downe his finger or staffe to the ground, where he seeth the old Hounds haue taken the sent.

The order how to hunt the Hare when you haue entred your whelps.



You must choole out the plainest ground you can find nere unto you, and take with you to the field three Huntsmen, which must obserue this order, both to the seate and when the Hare is found. After your whelps are all let lose, and haue found their noses, your chiefe Huntsman must followe the hounds straight, and your other two must goe the

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the one fixe skore yards wide of the hounds on the one side, and the other as farre wide on the other side: to the end if any yong hound put out of either side, he may bee beaten in againe to the crie. Your Huntsman that followeth straight must keepe himselfe eight skore yards behind the hounds at the least, that they may haue rounge to vndoe a double, and he to keepe them from countring: and at euery ouer putting off the hounds, or small stop, euery huntsman that hath a horne ought to begin his rechte, and before the same bee ended the hounds will bee in full chase againe: and so all the time fild either with hunting or blowing. But if the fault growe so great that none of the Huntsmen can vndoe it with pricking of the high waies, then must they goe on, and cast a small round about the place where the Hounds stopped. And if no Hounds take it at that cast, then must they cast a greater compasse round about, drawing the hounds softly: and if it bee not hit then, the Huntsman should blowe a call, that all that be in the field may repayre to him, and beate for the squat of the Hare.

If she be recovered by any Huntsman or hounds, and afterwards take a flocke of sheepe, or as the manner of the plaine or filden countrey is, take a heard of Swine or of beasts, & the Huntsman call past the foyle, and the hounds hit of the sent againe either ouerthwart the fallowes, or vpon a cold wet moorish ground: then doth it come to cold hunting, so as you shall see the hounds pinch by footes and take it one from anothers nose: and you may not in any wise comfort your hounds too much when the sent is so very colde, but that one hound may heare another. One Hare kild thus with cold hunting, is better kild than twentie in hot chase. If vpon fallowes the Hare fortune to double in rainie weather, you may helpe the hounds much by calling them to the stauers end: but you must haue regard that it bee newe and not old, for so might you doe the hounds

by Sir Thomas Coekaine.

hounds great wrong. I was once in the field my selfe where I sawe a Gentleman come in by chaunce with a Beagle, at which time the hounds were at fault by reason of a flock of sheepe which were driven along the high way where the Hare was gone before: This Beagle tooke it downe the way and cride it: there being ten or twelae couple of good hounds in the companie, and not any of their noses serving them, untill the Beagle had brought it from off the foyld ground, and then did they all fall to hunting, and recouer the Hare which was squat, and killed her.

A good Huntsman ought to blowe the deatch, and carry with him a peece of bread in his sleeue to wet in the blood of the Hare for the reliefe of his whelps, and he ought to be carefull that all his hounds be coupled by, and none going loose neither to the field nor home againe: and be sure that meate bee made in the morning to feede them withall at evening when they come home. And this I know by my owne experience, that the purest and finest feeding is with ground Ores put in a tub and scalded with water: which tub being made close with a couer, will keepe the meate hot till night.

I haue my selfe proued all manner of other feedings, but vied this as the purest & best, for this sistris two yeres: during which time I haue hunted the Bucke in Summer, and the Hare in Winter, two yeres onely excepted. In the one, hauing King Henry the viii. his letters to serue in his warres in Scotland before his maiesties going to Bulleime. And in the other, King Edward the vi. his letters to serue vnder Francis the Earle of Shrewsburie his Graces Lieutenant to rescue the siege at Haddington: which Towne was then kept by that valiant Gentleman Sir James Wilsford Knight. God send England many such Captaines when it shall haue needs of them.

How

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How to hunt the Roe.



When you have hunted the hare at winter, and made your hounds very perfect, you may at the beginning of March give over the hunting thereof, and then begin to hunt the Roe in manner and forme following.

You must get a Huntsman who hath a good hound wherewith he vsually findeth the Roe, to find you the Roe
bucker.

by Sir Thomas Cookaine.

bucks: then must you cast off nine or ten couple of your hounds, and hunt the Roe bucke three or foure houtes, and then relieue them with five or six couple more of your slowest sort. All Huntsmen are to helpe any hound that is cast out to relay him in againe, and also are to hewe the Roe bucke in, both with voyce and horne. And if he haue been hunted with other Huntsmen before, he will promise to make a strong chase: and therefore you may not hunt your hounds past twice a weeke at the Roe.

When your hounds haue kild a Roe, the best man in the companie is to take the assay, which he must doe crosse ouer the reuell. Then must the hounds be taken away out of sight, a small space distant for troubling the Huntsman, who must first slit the legges and cut them off at the first ioynt: then must he slit the throte downe the bysket to the nether end, and take the skinne cleane of: which done, he must slit his little bellie, taking out the panch with all the bloud in the bodie, and lay it vpon the skinne with the foure seere. If any towne be neere hand you must send for bread, for the better reliefe of your hounds to be broken in the bloud, which being come, your Huntsman must let all the hounds forth of the couples, and hallowe them to the paunch, who must be very careful, that if any of his hounds bee missing, he keepe somewhat to relieue them withall, and also see diligently that euery hound that be there haue some reward.

During all the time of this rewarding your hounds, a long note must be blowne by a Huntsman, and then all the rest that haue hornes rechte vpon it. You must also haue one in your companie with a sheet, that so soone as the seere of the Roe bee cut off, as aforesaide, hee may take the bodie home, which will make delicate meate, if your Cooke season it, lard it, and bake it well. The sent of the Roe is farre sweeter to hounds than any other chase: the reason is, he hath in his forelegge a little hole, whereat when he is hunted,

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ted issueth out all his moisture; for he sweateth not outwardly as other Deere doe, but only runneth softly at that hole. This chase may you well hunt till Whitson tide.

How to hunt the Stagge.



After Whitson tide you may hearken where a Stagge lieth, either in Couert of Wood, or Cozne field, and haue him harbozed for you: whereat bate ten couple of
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by Sir Thomas Cookaine.

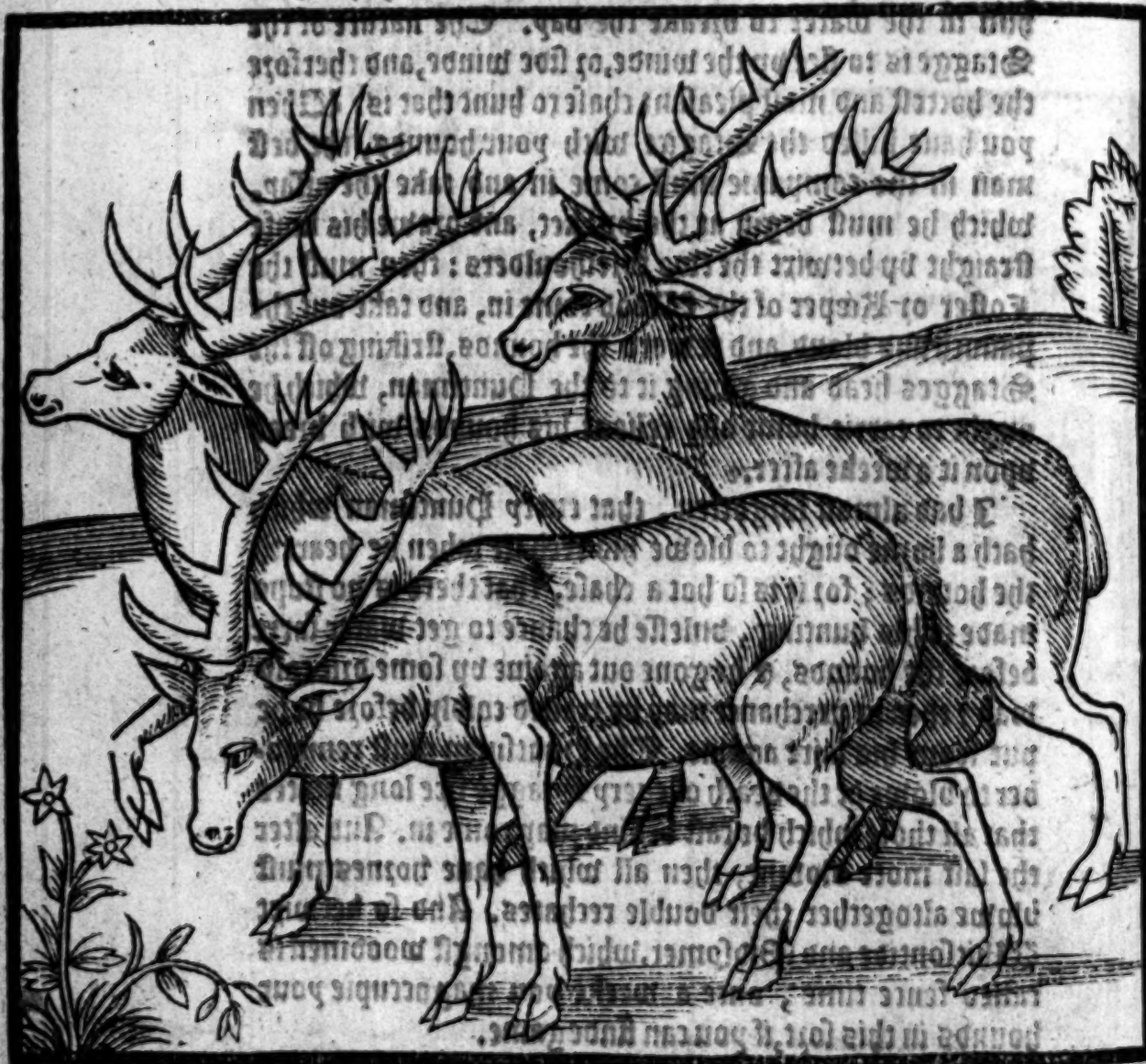
your Hounds, and lay a relay of six couple at the water you suppose he will goe to: for naturally when a Stagge is hot he desireth the water, at which time you are to bate your six couple of fresh hounds to the wearie, that haue him in the water to breake the bay. The nature of the Stagge is to flee vp the winde, or side winde, and therefore the hottest and most pleasant chase to hunt that is. When you haue killed the Stagge with your hounds, the best man in the companie must come in and take the assay, which he must begin at the bysket, and drawe his knife straight vp betwixt the two foreshoulders: then must the Foster or Keeper of the Wood come in, and take out the paunch and bloud, and reward the hounds, striking off the Stagges head and giuing it to the Huntsman, which he ought to carrie home and relieue his hounds with bread vpon it a weeke after.

I had almost forgotten, that euery Huntsman which hath a horne ought to blowe his rechte when he heareth the hounds; for it is so hot a chase, that there is no stop made in his hunting, vlesse he chance to get water farre before the hounds, & be gone out againe by some drie coloway: then he perchance may be trailed coldly before he be put from his laire againe. The Huntsman must remember to blowe at the death of euery Stagge six long notes that all those which be cast behind may come in. And after the last note blowne, then all which haue hornes must blowe altogether their double rechates. And so betwixt Whicfontide and Midsummer, which amongst woodmen is called fence time, once a weeke you may occupie your hounds in this sort, if you can finde game.

How
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A Discourse of Hunting

How to order your hounds before you hunt the Bucke.



You must take vp at Widsomer ten or eleven couple of such Hounds as you entend to hunt the Bucke withall, and let so many of them bee led in lines as you haue Huntsmen to leade them, some one day, some another.

by Sir Thomas Cockaine.

other. They must sometimes let them loose, and if they offer to go away from their keeper, or range abroad, he must call them in to him, and make them obedient to his voice, & to come into him at all times, be he on horsebacke or on foote. Your Huntsman must haue a Combe to combe the hounds he leadech, from fleas, and a hattercloth to rub them withall after, to make them fine and smooth. You must beware that you offer not to hunt the Bucke before the first day of Grasse time: for fawnes bee so weake, that if your hounds should take the killing of them, you should hardly bereaue them of it.

On A weeke before you intend to hunt, you must feed your young hounds with chippings of bread upon the top of an old Buckes head. And before you hunt the Bucke, you must also breathe your hounds in an evening or morning at the Park: for who so hunteth unbreathed hounds at the Bucke first in hot weather, causeth them to imbolt and surbate greatly. When you enter your hounds at the Bucke, keepe them not so hye in flesh till after Bartholmew tide, and then as hye as you can. The best feeding for Bucke hounds is bread and milke: but you must beware of giuing them newe bread, for then will they not hunt of two daies after.

How to enter your hounds at

the Bucke.

You must come into the Park with ten or twelue couple of hounds loose at the stirrop, having in your companie halfe a dosen well horsed, with long roddees in their hands, shewe the hounds to the heard, and if any offer to runne thereat, rate them and beate them in againe to the stirrop. Then goe beate the brakes to finde some greater Deare, and if any hound hunt from his fellowes, or runne

at

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at ras hall, take him up in a line, and beating him, say, a we, ware that. Then leade him to the stirrop, againe, and there let him loose amongst his fellows, cherish and giue him bread, in which brating you make your hounds so obedient to the voyce of man, that they will at euery worde come in to the stirrop. This done, you may begin to tust for a Bucke, and finding him single, especiallie if he rouse forth of a great brake, put your hounds softly vpon, for he will fall oft at the beginning: which although the Huntsman see, yet must he giue libertie to the young hounds to imprime him themselves. And being sure it is his owne Deere, he may giue one gibbet at euery imprime, and no more. When your hounds haue forced him that he falles to flying single, and the Huntsman spie him in any thick copie of great brake, he may say (he thats, he that) once and no more, which is knowledge to the other Huntsmen, that he seeth him, and all Huntsmen as the Deere groweth wearie, must forbear to hallowe, for a hallowe doth breake the crye, and the wearie Deere at any time making his doubles, and the hounds a little stopping, all which haue hoznes must begin their rechates, which before they haue ended, the hounds will haue vndone the double and bee in full chace againe: so that all the time will be filld either with hunting or blowing.

A good Huntsman at the Bucke must ride fast, to see what his hounds do hunt, he must not hallowe but when the Bucke he hunteth either is in the heard, or that some other Buckes of the same yeare bee with him. If your hounds chance to stop or be at default, and then any huntsman hap to meete their hunted Deere single, let him blow a short call that his fellows next to the hounds may draw them towards him on the seate. So that by a hallowe the Huntsmen may knowe their wearie Deere is in the heard, and by blowing the priue call that he is gone single away. If you hunt a Buck in any Parke, and be fortune to leaue
the

by Sir Thomas Cockaine.

the pale, then must the Huntsman next to the hounds blow three shotes and a rebate vpon it: so by that meanes all the companie may knowe that their hunted Deere is gone out of the Parke.

A good Huntsman must likewise at the first casting off his hounds, take a speciall marke of the Bucke he hunteth by his head: for diuers Buckes haue sundrie flots in their palmes: some haue flots on both sides: other some are plaine palmed without any aduancers with long spillers out behinde: the most Buckes haue some kenspeck marke to knowe them by vpon their heads.

If you hunt a Buck wearie in the beginning of Grassetime, and your hounds chauce to checke and lose him, it is then somewhat hard for a young Huntsman to knowe him by his head, before it be full Soaquined. Yet note this for your better experience, when your wearie Deere hath rested and laine a while, if you then fortune to finde him againe, he will close up his mouth, as though he had not been imposted or hunted that day, making a bragge and setting by his single; yet this secret knowledge you must haue to knowe him by, he will swell under the throate bigger than an egge, when he closeth his mouth: his coate also will flare and rise so vpon him, as you may easily knowe him thereby. And if you force him a little with a horse or hound, hee will presently lay downe his single, whereby you may easily perceiue his wearines. Now, if it chauce that your hounds doe break, and one part hunt one companie of Deere, and the other part another companie, wherein your wearie Deere is, your Huntsman ought so soone as he espieth it to blow halfe a rebate, that the others may stop the hounds that hunt false, and bring them in againe to the wearie Deere, and then the Huntsmans part is to applie the hounds well vntill they haue fogled the wearie Deere againe: which done, they may fauour their horses and let the hounds hunt, which will

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make a good crie till the death of that Bucke. You must be carefull to chouse small Parks at the first entring of your hounds, and hunt therein morning & evening two Buckes a day: and by that time you haue kild halfe a skore Buckes in this order, you will find that some of your young hounds vnderstand a wearte Deere: so that then you may hunt in greater and larger Parks: and towards the latter end of the yeare you may venter ouer Chases and Forrests. Keepe this packe of hounds, and the next yeare following they will proue singularly cunning. And if it fortune any of them to proue euil either by crossing, thwarting, or running wilde, you may take them forth and put in other young hounds which haue hunted the hare the winter before: for the best Harleys proue alwaies the best Buck hounds, if they be fleet enough.

When you hunt in Forrest, Chase or Parke, if the Deere chance to get advantage of your hounds, & become cold fled, then is the best triall of your hounds which will hunt him the coldest without checking or hunting any other Deere. And if you haue a couple of good hounds that you be sure will not chauge, hunt to those and not to any other: so are you like to recouer your wearte Deere. One Deere so kild, is better than a dozen in hot chase, and it will also make your hounds to become trailops of a wearte Deere.

How to hunt the Staggs after the end of Grasse time.

When Grasse time is ended, and that you haue done hunting the Bucke, then may you for a fortnight after hunt the Staggs. But your Huntsmen must be careful to be hit, when he is ready to dye, and to charge him with their swords, other wise he will greatly enbawged your hounds his head is so hard.

I was very well acquainted with the hunting hereof
both in Parke, Forrest and Chase, by the meanes of those
honorable Gentlemen Francis Earle of Huntington, and
the Marques of Northampton now deceased, who if ei-
ther of them had heard of a Stragge lying in an out wood
farre from the Forrest, Chase or Parke, whereof he was,
would presently repaire with twentie couple of hounds to
the place where he were harbored, and bee sure to send a
couple of the slowest to the relay four miles off to which
spoke for the most part I was sent for to await upon them.
Such Huntsmen as follow this Chase must haue espe-
ciall regard to the winde in their riding, and make sure the
keepe, the side winde, or the full winde, if they can possiblie
get it. So shall they heare most by aue cries, and be assured
to come in to the death of the Stragge.

How to hunt the Otter.



How to hunt the Otter.


Your huntsman early in the morning before he lying
forth your houndes, must goe to the water; and
seeke for the new swagging of an Otter, & in the man-
ner as they light upon the line, and the houndes as eno-
ugh

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or grauell finde out the sealing of his foote, so shall he perceive perfectly whether hee goe up the water or downe: which done, you must take your houndes to the place where he lodged the night before; and cast your traploze off vpon the tragle you thinke best; keeping your whelpes still in the rombles: for so must they be entred.

Then must there be on either side of the water two men with Otter speares to strike him, if it bee a great water: But if it be a small water you must forbear to strike him, for the better making of your houndes.

The Otter is chiefly to bee hunted with slow houndes: great mouthed, which to a young man is a verie earnest spozte, he will vent so oft and put by ouer water at which time the houndes will spend their mouthes verie lustely: Thus may you haue good sport at an Otter two or thre howres if you list.



An Otter sometimes wilbe trayled a mile or two before he come to the hole where he lyeth, and the earnestnes of the spozte beginneth not till he bee found, at which time some must runne vp the water, some downe to see where he vents, and so pursue him with great earnestnes till hee be kild. But the best hunting of him is in a great water when the banke is full, for then he cannot haue so great succour in his holes, as when it is at an ebbe: And hee maketh the best spozte in a moon-shine night, for then he will runne much ouer the land, and not keepe the water as he will in the day.

How to hunt the Marterne.

Now will I make an end with the hunting of the Marterne, which is the sweetest vermine that is hunted: for when you cast off your houndes in a close that is thick of bushes where a Marterne hath been a birding all night, so soone as they light vpon the sent, it is so sweete that you

by Sir Thomas Cockaine

you will meruaile what it is your hounds finde of: for they will so double their mouthes, and teare them together, that you would thinke there were more hounds in companie than your owne.

And when you haue found her, the crie is meruailous strong, and great for halfe an houre: for she will bee alwayes neere you, and runne rounde about you in the chickets. When she groweth wearie she will take a tree, from whence you must put her, & that if possible you can, so secretly as none of your hounds espie her, and then will she make you fresh spozte againe for a quarter of an houre. You shall haue no such cries at any chase that is hunted: because your hounds stoupe lowe for the sent and haue the sweete wypp of her.

A speciall note for an olde man or a lame, that loueth hunting, and may not wel follow the hounds.

He must marke how the winde standeth, and euer keepe downe the same, or at the least the side winde of the houndes. If he once loose the winde of the houndes, he is very like to loose the spozte for that daye if it be in the plaine or filden countrey.

Thus haue I wearied you with reading this pamphlet of my owne experience, praying you to beare with the rudenes of the same; for the Author thereof is a professed hunter, and not a scholler: and therefore you must not looke to haue it decked either with eloquence or Arte.

D. 3.

Sir

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Sir Tristrams measures of blowing.

First when you goe into the field, blowe with one winde,
one short, one long, and a longer.

To blowe to the coupling of the Hounds at the kennell
dore, blowe with one, one long, and three short.

The second winde one long, one short, and a shorter.

To blow to the field.

Blowe with two windes : with the first one short, one
long, and two short.

With the second winde, one short, one long, and a longer.

To blow in the field.

With two windes, the first two short, one long, and
two short.

The second, one short, one long and a longer.

To uncouple thy hounds in the field : three long notes
and with three windes.

To blow to seeke.

Two windes : The first a long and a short, the second a
long.

When the Hounds hunt after a game yet
knowne, blow thus.

Blow the Heline, one long, and five short : The second
winde, two short and one long. The third winde, one
long, and two short.

To draw from Couert to Couert.

Three windes, two short, one long, and two short. The
second, one long and a short. The third, one long.

To

by Sir Thomas Cockaine.

To blow the earthing of the Foxe when
he is couerable.

Foure notes with foure windes, The reliefe, one long,
five short.

To blow if the Foxe be not couerable.

Two windes, one long and three short. The second
winde long.

To blow the death of the Foxe in
Field or Court.

Three notes, with three windes, the rechate vpon the
same with three windes. The first winde, one long and
five short. The second, one short and one long. The third,
one long and five short.

The death of the Bucke at the Lords gate.

Two notes, and then the reliefe three times.

The death of the Bucke, either with Bowe, or
Hounds, or Grey hounds.

One long note.

The knowledge vpon the same.

Two short and one long.

The death of the Bucke with Hounds.

Two long notes and the rechate.

The prize of an Hart royall.

Nine notes with three rests. The Rechate with three
winds. The first, one long and five short. The second
one long and one short. The third, one long and five
short.

To

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To blow the call of the Keepers of any
Parke or Forrest.

One short, one long, and a longer. If the keeper answer
you, blowe two short with one winde, and drawe to-
wards him. And after that blowe one short.

When the game breaketh covert.

Foure with three winds, and the recharge upon the same.

The sent when the Hounds can hunt no further with
three windes, the first one long and sixe short. The second
one long and one short: the third one long.

Where the Foxe is earthed, blowe for the

Terriers after this manner.

One long and two short: the second winde one long,
and two short.

Note this, for it is the chiefest and principallest point
to be noted.

Every long containeth in blowing seaven quavers, one
minome and sixe quaver.

One minome containeth foure quavers.

One short containeth three quavers.

E N D

The death of the Foxe with Hounds.

The death of the Foxe with Hounds.

The death of the Foxe with Hounds.

The death of the Foxe with Hounds.

